

JUN 7 1917

61 4 4

Albany, Oregon, June 1, 1917.

Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Brother:-

How are you, and how goes the work?

All are in fair health with us, and we are busy as ever. If the Board of Church Erection will grant us seven hundred dollars we will build an addition which, with furnishings etc., will cost \$2200. The new addition itself will cost \$2000. We must not create any debt. We have the \$1500 raised, but we have gone the limit.

How goes the Alaskan program these fine days? I do not often hear from that country - the land we love the best. But I often find myself thinking about the country and the work. I am very hopeful that all will go well with the workers during these trying times.

Are you entirely out of touch with the getting of new men? or has that idea not been pressed to the limits suggested by the Shriver-Buchanan affair? I hope it has not, for it is quite possible that more blunders of the same sort will be made. How is Shriver coming on? I do not know much about the work of my successor, but he surely was far from being the man needed in Thane, where Shriver was scheduled to go - or have I lost my knack of sizing up men and fields?

How about those towns out on the south coast - from Cordova westward? I know nothing of developments in the country now, excepting of the sending of Fred Forbes to the S.S. work.

Hoping that you are in health and enjoying great prosperity, I am,

Very truly,

*Robert Joseph Diven*

June 6, 1917.

Mrs. E. M. Byerley,  
614 West Elm Street,  
Enid, Oklahoma.

My dear Cousin:

Your letter addressed to me at Wichita, was forwarded here and reached me after my return.

I would have been very glad indeed to have paid you a visit had I known in time, and had I not been so pressed for time. On account of my engagements it would have been impossible to pay you a visit. I was very glad to hear from you and your father. Please give him my regards.

If I am ever in your region again, I shall certainly take great pleasure in looking you up.

Very cordially your cousin,

June 6, 1917.

Rev. George J. Beck,

Hoonah, Alaska.

My dear Mr. Beck,

I have recently put in a plea in The Continent for papers and magazines, and shall continue to stir up the people of the east to send you a supply. I am sending from my own home files of "The Christian Herald" which have Frank Carpenter's articles on Alaska in them.

I hope in the course of the summer to get substantial supplies of this kind to all of the natives and white missions that desire them.

I had a good time with Waggoner and Bruce at the General Assembly.

I feel a very keen interest in the Mission at Hoonah, and am glad of your work there. I do not, however, know when I shall be able to get back to Alaska. It is possible that I may go to take charge of the college work at Fairbanks, and it is also possible that if I continue in the service of the Board, I may be able to make an extended trip to Alaska next summer.

With warm regards to Mrs. Beck and the whole family, and hoping to hear from you again, I am

Faternally yours,

June 7, 1917.

Rev. Robert J. Diven, D.D.

Albany, Oregon.

My dear Diven,

Yours of the 1st instant is just here, and I lose no time in answering it.

To answer your first question, "How are you?" I am better now, but have been having quite a sick spell. Have still to take care of myself and of my daily diet. Overwork and too little out-of-doors did it.

As to the work - that is progressing pretty well. I have just returned from the General Assembly at Dallas, and we had a great time. You have heard of the election of Dr. Marquis as General Secretary of the Board. There will be a complete reorganization, and it is likely that Dr. Dixon will cease his connection with the Board. I shall be very sorry indeed to lose the constant companionship of my closest friend in the Board, But Mr. Marquis is a fine man, and I believe will make a good head. I shall probably remain here another year with added responsibilities and work. I shall probably have the whole of the Alaska correspondence to take care of. Bruce and Waggoner were at the Assembly, and we had good times together.

I am glad that you are making progress with your church, and hope you will get all the money you need. The Alaska program goes forward, and I shall have some more special money to raise during the coming year.

Am working hard now to help secure a second term for Governor Strong - a gang of political shysters are trying to oust him.

It is possible that I may go to Alaska in the near future as President of the new college, but that will not be right away. I have been recommended by the Committee of the Alaska Senate for the position, and if Strong is reappointed I have a good chance of getting the place. I am not counting on it, however, as <sup>a</sup>certainty - there is too much politics in Alaska to be sure of anything until it materializes. We are ~~try~~ing a strong effort to keep the gang of saloon men and Catholic politicians from nullifying the prohibition law. We think we have them going!

No, I am not out of touch with the getting of new men, but closer in touch than ever. I have just inserted in the papers a call for three good men, - one for the new interior railroad station at Nenana, one at Ruby to take Bradshaw's place, and one for Kake. If you know of any suitable men who are available and first class, please tell me at once. It is only just now that I have been certain that we can commission the men this year. I shall have to raise the money specially for the two men in the interior, but have little doubt that it can be done, at least the Board is willing to bank on my ability to raise the money and to commission the men as soon as they are found.

Shriver is doing splendidly at Cordova, and so is our new man, Marple, whom we sent to Fairbanks, as well as McBride and Hughes at Anchorage and Matanuska. Bruce, you know, has taken Stevens place at Juneau and is making good. That church is in a more hopeful condition than ever before. Buchanan is still at Sitka - the most we hear from him is demands for increased salary.

I wish, oh, how I wish that you were available for Nenana. There is a good opportunity, just such another one as Anchorage was last year.

How about your book "The Two Bobs?" Has it come out yet? I am starting upon another story "The Anvil of the North," a story of the Nome stampede. My two books already published are doing finely.

I feel that this is rather a dull letter, but there doesn't seem to be very much snap or vigor to my mind or body these days. Let me hear from you again and soon. As ever, your warm friend,

JUN 18 1917

4 28 4

Albany, Ore. June 12, 1917.

Dear Doctor Young:-

I was very glad to get your letter this morning, and having a little time to myself I will reply at once.

Tell me all about Nenana. If I can't go myself, perhaps I can get a man on the line for you to investigate. I sent a letter to Dr. Condit, addressing it to the Assembly, but it came back the other day. I sent it on to Alaska. It was calling his attention to D.A. McLeod of Cottage Grove, Oregon. I spoke to McLeod at Presbytery, about going to Alaska, and he said he had been thinking about it but had never offered himself. He is a strong man physically and not a piker. He is alive. He is not just peddling some dogma - he is leading people. I hope he can be secured. He would be fine for Ruby, as I have heard Ruby described. He is single, but he might be induced to remedy that condition.

How many people in Nenana? How old is the settlement? What other church is entering? I see by the map that it is on the Tanana River - how far west of Fairbanks? How far from the Yukon? How do you enter that region - via of Skagway or how? Comparative cost of living, and salary? Are there outstations? What and where located? You know I'd like MIGHTILY to go, and so far as the health of the family is concerned now I could go. But just what to do with the son for another year, till he gets through ~~wa~~ with his prep work is a sticker - MONEY is the cruel question. And it may be that the General Missionary would not favor my going there any more than to any other point, though I have faith to believe that he will grow wiser as he continues in his hard task up there. His intentions are surely good, and a closer fellowship with the men will do for him just what some of the other workers were much in need of. I am glad Waggoner had the little trip out. Bless his heart, he was needing it and it will do him good. I never met Bruce, but have heard good things of him.

No company offering to publish wholly at their own expense has yet appeared, so my MS. is still in my hands. The Gorham Press and the Sherman French Company, both of Boston, seemed eager to publish - partly at my own expense - but I concluded that money was worth more to me just now than the name of having published a book; so I will wait a bit. It will not be difficult for me to prepare a number of short articles, which I think will not have to go begging very long, and that may open the way for me to get a publisher for the longer tales. I shall look further, right away, for a publisher, but publishers are now like many other folks - mighty careful of their capital. The accompanying bit of verse has oozed out of my pores since January. It has just been set in final form. ~~Just~~ Keep this copy for your own pleasure, if you care to do so. It will be offered for publication soon. I think I know where it will go promptly.

If the Board of Church Election will grant us seven hundred dollars, as we have asked, we will soon have this parish past special need of my services. There has been more raised here than I thought possible.

If there is anything I can do to help you and Doctor Condit to get men for the North country, let me know. I think I know the sort of men the country needs - at least certain parts of the country.

I hope your strength will increase with the summer weather, and that your trip to Alaska may be helpful to a cause which is surely worthy, if I understand the political situation. Too bad that dirty politics should enter so largely into Alaska's early life! Fraternally,

*Given*

June 20, 1917.

Rev. George Brewer, D.D.  
First Presbyterian Church,  
Duluth, Minnesota.

My dear Dr. Brewer,

I have thought many times of you and your family and church since I saw you a year ago last January. I have never ceased to be grateful for the splendid way in which your church answered my appeal for the new work in Alaska. As you doubtless saw by the Assembly Herald and church papers, we got the \$10,000 by spring. It has founded and supported two new and very important missions, built churches, provided equipment, and has generally strengthened the work in the whole interior of Alaska. Now the budget includes these missions established by that fund, and I have the task of establishing two new missions, also of keeping our church abreast of the progress being made in the interior of Alaska.

A new town, Nenana, on the Tanana River, has sprung up at the interior terminus of the Government Railroad and promises to be a large and important city. It is adjacent to Nenana coal fields which are large and of good quality, also surrounded by a fine farming region.

I shall have to raise a new fund of some \$7000 to meet the expense of this new and important work, as the Board feels itself unable to appropriate this money from its general fund. Of course I look first to those who are already interested in this work of evangelizing the new populations of Alaska, and I am writing to you to ask whether in your judgment it would be wise for me to write to those in your church who gave good sums last year to this work? I suppose it will be impossible for me to get to Duluth during the coming year, and therefore my appeal would have to be a personal one and by letter. I feel like follow-

Dr. Brewer-2.

ing your judgment implicitly in this matter, and shall not write to any of your people without your approval.

Please let me hear from you and tell me of the health of your family, your progress, etc. Do you see George Swift? Give him my regards when you see him. With kind remembrances to Mrs. Brewer and the Glenns' I am

Very cordially yours,

June 20, 1917.

Rev. Robert Joseph Diven, D.D.

Albany, Oregon.

My dear Diven,

Yours of June 12th is just at hand, and I lose no time in replying.

I have taken your letter, so far as it refers to Alaska, to Dr. Dixon, so that what I say represents his spoken opinion as well as my written one.

First, in regard to Nenana - that is the interior terminus of the great Government Railroad, which is supposed to be finished in two years from now. It is about sixty miles down the Tanana River from Fairbanks. There will be a branch road from Nenana to Fairbanks, but Nenana will be the real interior metropolis, as everybody thinks. There are large mines of good coal at Nenana, and some of this coal is said to be equal to the best steaming coal at Matanuska, which is in turn equal to the best anywhere. They are building the railroad from Nenana as well as from Anchorage at the other end. Nenana is booming, and there are lots of railroad men working there now. It is growing to be a lively town. There is no missionary there to the whites whatever - the only missionary being a Lay-missionary who attends only to the Indians at the Episcopal Mission a mile or more from the Railroad town. The Episcopalians themselves have expressed the wish that we would send a man to Nenana. It is very much such a proposition as McBride has had at Anchorage, and he has built a large church there, and is about to organize a church which he is working up very rapidly toward self-support. I have no doubt that a man like yourself could do the same thing at Nenana.

I am to raise the money for that mission, but the Board will advance the money needed to send the missionary in to support him until my money comes.

I suppose the money to support him for one year would come from my new fund, and after that, as in the case of Anchorage and Matanuska, the Board would take the man up in its regular budget. It is a great opportunity and a very fascinating work.

As to the town itself, it will have fine schools and every facility that any good town possess. Furthermore, the Alaska legislature at its last session, completed arrangements and established the College at Fairbanks, for which the Government four years ago appropriated large tracts of ground. \$60,000. is immediately available for that College. I have been recommended as the first President, and am only waiting until the Governorship fight is settled (which ought to be within a few weeks) to press my claim. Whether I get the position or not, the College is assured, and you would not have to send your boy outside, but could educate him in what is in time bound to be a great University.

Now, my friend, in there is the real Alaska. You have only known the rainy and dismal coast. You do not yet know the sunny, brisk, live, fruitful, agricultural Alaska. The climate there, I consider the finest in the world, and I but voice the general opinion of all those who have lived there. We are prepared to back you up for Nenana the moment you agree to go, and I do not apprehend any opposition from Dr. Condit; on the contrary, I think he would be delighted to have you go to such a place.

Now to answer your other questions. During the summer you would go by steamer to Skagway, go across the White Pass Railroad to White Horse, then down the Yukon to the mouth of the Tanana, and up less than two hundred miles up the Tanana River to Nenana. During the winter months, you would have to go by steamboat to Cordova, take the Copper River Railroad to Chitina one hundred and thirty two miles, then by stage-sled to Fairbanks three hundred and ten miles, then by another stage-sled down to Nenana. This would be a more expensive trip than the river route, but a very delightful trip after all. Mr. Marple, who went in to Fairbanks last March with his wife by this winter route, express himself most enthusiastically about the trail. I have gone over that trail and never enjoyed life better.

Mr. Diven S.

The salary would be \$1700. and all the expenses of yourself and family, including freight on library and personal effects. The cost of living in that interior is much higher than on the coast, but there will not be nearly so much difference when the railroad is completed and the high freights brought down. Wickersham has been fighting the Guggenheim Co. about these freights, and has got through Congress some bills which are doing some good this summer, and will do more in the future.

There is one item that is worth mentioning, and that is the marriage fees in that country. One year at Fairbanks my wedding fees amounted to \$500.00. I never got less than \$10.00 fee, and my average was about \$20.00 in that interior country.

Now in regard to McLeod. I like what you have said about him, and what I can learn from his past record. We need just such a man for Ruby, only it is absolutely necessary that the men we send to Nenana and Ruby should be married and have their wives with them. We had enough trouble with Bradshaw to make us very positive on this subject. He went in alone and said his wife would come the next summer. He stayed there three years, and his wife stayed outside. He got into all sorts of trouble, and when he left the mission was in a distracted condition. We do not wish to risk another such failure.

I see there are two more questions about Nenana which I have not answered. First, as to the age of that settlement. The Episcopal Indian Mission there has been going on for thirteen years, but the white mission down at the terminus of the railroad is less than two years old. It is a new, raw camp, and has never had any saloons in it, as the Government even before the prohibition law was passed, prohibited all sale of liquor in their railroad towns; therefore it has never been a wide open town and I imagine the conditions have been better than at the beginning of most of the towns of Alaska.

As to out-stations, there would be the towns and camps along the line

Dr. Diven 4.

of the new railroad, a very interesting work which I have found about as satisfactory and stirring as any I have undertaken. I had just such work as that when the Guggenheims' were putting the Copper Valley R.R. from Cordova. Then there will be the town at the Nanana coal mines not far from Nenana, and the Tolovana gold camps are not very far away. The minister at Nenana would find plenty to do, and if he is a "musher" and a hustler he would impress his personality and the Christian religion upon a wide field.

Now please lose no time in letting us know here whether you will take up this work this summer; communicate also with Condit and consult him in everything. Your boy, if he is the sturdy young fellow I think he is, would not mind staying alone at Albany one more year, or if the College at Fairbanks materializes this fall, he could be transferred there. However, I think it is probable that school will not be ready to open for another year.

As to your manuscript, and any other books you may want to publish - the Gorham Press and Sherman French of Boston are known everywhere as the most cruel, conscienceless publisher sharks in the United States, if not in the world. They are constantly writing letters to authors known and unknown, flattering letters, offering to publish their books. They name a price for which they will publish the first edition of 1000 books, the author to pay from one-half to three-quarters of the cost of publishing the first edition - generally about \$800.00. This amount furnished by the author, will more than pay the cost of the whole edition, leaving for the margin of profit \$300.00 or \$400.00. When they get money from the author, they will do no advertising and make no effort to get the book on the market, but go on to the next victim, leaving him with 800 or 1000 books on his hands to exploit as best he can. All the reputable publishers have hundreds of letters from authors about these houses, saying that they (the authors) have their books on their hands, and asking the reputable book sellers and publishers to sell them on commission, which they cannot do.

Dr.Diven - 5.

Your writings are good enough to be published on their own merits with a royalty. If you succeed in getting your short stories and sketches published in magazines, and thus acquire a reputation, you will have no trouble then in starting your longer works. Revell says - "don't go within a thousand miles of those two Companies in Boston, and any others that make like propositions."

I am taking your little poem home. I am going to take the liberty of a friend, and go over it carefully and write some suggestions about it out of my own experiences as a publisher of poems, which may or may not do you a little good as you look at it. If you don't like my "butting in" with these criticisms, just say so and I'll stop.

Dr. Marquis has not yet indicated his decision as to whether or not he will accept the position of General Secretary of the Board. At any rate, the change will not take place until the first of October, and the office will jog along in the same old way during the summer.

I shall rest considerably this summer and do some writing on my new story "The Anvil of the North." I am improving in health and hope to get back to my usual vigor. My daughter Lassie, and her children and I, are living for the summer at Fair Haven, N.J. and have a canoe, and I take a paddle every evening on Shrewsbury Bay.

Please let me hear from you as soon as possible. With warm regards,

I am

Your friend,

June 21, 1917.

Mrs. Luella S. Dunn,  
Adams House,  
Iditarod, Alaska.

My dear Mrs. Dunn,

Your letter of April 17th has been by me some time, and I now take it up to answer it. It was very interesting and full of news that I wanted to know.

I am glad your magazines still keep going to you, and I shall turn the next Christian Herald that offer over to you. There are so many reading rooms that are being kept in the same way, that I am glad to know just what special want you have.

I am going to send your request for Bibles to Dr. Condit, our General Missionary at Juneau. I think he has some that he can turn your way.

There is a Sunday School missionary, Dr. Forbes, who is going to travel extensively in Alaska this summer, and I am going to try to direct him to Iditarod, Flat, Marshall, etc. Therefore I have some hopes that you will have services for a little while at least. We are trying to get a new missionary for Ruby, and perhaps he can go down during the winter and give you a few services. The man we last had at Ruby was to go, but failed to do so.

Please let me hear from you again. I am glad that you are at least holding the Fort there at Iditarod.

With warm regards to all my friends in the Camp, I am,

Very sincerely yours,

*Carbon*

Rev. James H. Condit, D.D.,  
Juneau, Alaska.

Albany, Oregon, June 26, 1917.

My dear Doctor:-

Since my last correspondence with you in reference to Alaskan work I have made some investigations as to the climatic conditions of the Interior country, and the information gathered has quite fully disposed of my earlier conclusions. Keeping warm has never been a difficulty, and in that very cold atmosphere the fact of its extreme dryness relieves it of cold's greatest menace.

Two weeks ago I had a letter from one of my old side-kickers in East Oregon, Rev. F. L. Forbes, D.D., and he told me he was starting into the Interior in Sunday School mission work, and that Nenana was his goal; also that Nenana was in line to be supplied with a minister as soon as a suitable man could be located. Since that letter came to my hand Lucile has been called to a position in the Sheldon Jackson School and is to leave home in two more days. Since the cablegram came asking her to come, the word has reached me that the long-expected college in Alaska has been finally provided for and that it is to be located at Fairbanks. This last item was of special interest to Kenneth - and to his father and mother as well - for his heart is, as you already know, in Alaska. He at once said, "Let us ask to be sent to some place within reach of that college and I will be only too glad to complete my preparatory work in the High School and then enter and go through the new college." Nenana is about sixty miles from Fairbanks, if I mistake not, and doubtless Nenana will have an accredited High School in full blast by this coming fall if it does not have it now. The lad is clerking in a store now, during his vacation, but he and his

Dr.J.H.C.2.

mother and I could be ready on very short notice to start for the Menana field,if you are ready to <sup>recommend me</sup> ~~express myself~~ for the place,a recommendation which I have no reason to doubt the Board would confirm - though I might be mistaken,for I lay no claim to infallibility. The health of the family is now very satisfactory and there is no visible reason to expect it to do other than continue so. Such a change would,I believe,solve the lad's school problem in a very happy way and help him toward that decision we are hoping for - that he will see the ministry as his life work instead of surgery. He has valuable qualifications his father never possessed:For example,he is not so unrighteously homely as I am,and he has a rare voice and already uses it very effectively in singing.

Doubtless Menana will have neighboring points to be explored and served - a line of endeavor which is not new to me. And as to tramping over intervening trails,I discovered last week that such exercise has not lost its charm,nor was it a painful performance to accomplish a thirty-mile hike without having previously worked up to it. My age(47) is,as you know,the age of a man's prime service both as a man and as a minister - unless the man has abused himself physically or dried up in his shell religiously.The former I have not done,and if the latter has taken place and I am living under a delusion,may the Gentlest of all Hands quickly lead me aside from the avenues of possible mischief to a world which needs the most virile interpretation of the Christ.

If you have already booked a man for Menana,all good and well! If the place is still open and you cannot see your way clear to recommend my appointment to the field,then I must be content to labor where it is more manifestly my place to labor. If you will recommend my appointment,

Dr.J.H.C.3.

please notify me by cable at my expense,if you wish,and also request the Board to do the same with their decision - if affirmative - so that we may lose no time in getting in and settled before the summer is gone. The fullest detailed account of conditions and requirements on the Tanana field you can give me will be appreciated and of great service,if I am to go.

Awaiting your pleasure and your earliest convenience in the matter of a reply,and with best wishes for yourself and your work, I am,

Fraternally,

*Robert Joseph Diven.*

June 27, 1917.

Rev. J. Loomis Gould, *Rev. J. Loomis Gould,*  
Cateva, Florida.

My dear Loomis,

Just before starting for the General Assembly, I received via French Creek, the sad news of the passing away of your dear wife. At Dallas, Texas, during the sessions of the General Assembly afterwards, I met Dr. J. E. Brecht of Ft. Meyers, Florida, who told me he attended Mrs. Gould in her last illness.

My dear friend and cousin, I know just what you have been passing through, for it is only two and a half years since Fannie left me. But as I have grown nearer to the other world in time myself, I have come to look more and more naturally upon death as merely the best episode of our earthly life, and after all a beautiful thing. I have no more anxiety about out meeting and enjoying the companionship of those we love there and enjoying a fuller and more intimate companionship than we could ever do here, than I have doubt about meeting and being kissed by my daughter Alaska and her children this evening when I go home to Fair Haven, N.J. where we are making our home this summer. I am not anxious at all about Rebecca. She is absolutely all right, and is doubtless busying herself in a heavenly, housewifely sort of way, getting ready the apartment in the Upper Mansion for you. But I am anxious about you - left alone down there in Florida. What are your plans? Would it not be better for you to go back to French Creek to spend the remainder of your days, if not to Alaska?

I am increasingly homesick to get back to my great territory. I am still occupying the Alaska office of the Home Mission Board, and have plenty to do to raise the money and get the men for our Alaska work. I am finding time

to write more on my books, and am starting on another Alaska story which will have for its scene the Nome stampede. It will be called "The Anvil of the North."

I sent you a copy of "The Klondike Clam" which has proved very successful. Did Rebecca read it?

Please let me hear from you as soon as possible, and may the Lord bless and keep you.

Affectionately your cousin,

4

Albany, Oregon, Monday morning.

Dear Doctor Young:-

Your letter is just at hand, and it has created just a little ripple on the surface of the Diven household affairs - the real movement is far beneath the surface.

First let me tell you that one week ago to-morrow the Superintendent of the Sheldon Jackson School telegraphed for Lucile to come to take charge of the Laundry department, and she will leave for Sitka this coming Saturday. Kenneth is clerking in a store in Mill City, Oregon, near here, for the summer. He would surely make a fine specimen to start a first class in an Alaskan college - 5'10" and 170 lbs. He would have another year in High School work, if standards are as high there as they are here. Here the High School graduates enter the University of Oregon without examination. I suppose the same rule would prevail in entering the new college in Alaska, since it is to be a State affair. Tell me right away if the college will carry a Pre Medic course, as all our State Universities and some of the other colleges are doing? That is the course he wishes to take up when he enters the University a year from next fall. The Albany faculty say they must have him with them this coming year for the last year of his prep course, but I do not believe the college will ever open again, and, beside that, I do not see how they can give him the desired standing - entrance to University without examination - now that the last Prep class has been graduated and no more such classes are allowed by the National Board. If the lad can be sure of finishing an accredited course in High School this coming year in Nenana, and if he can then be sure of getting the course he will almost surely call for one year from this coming fall, he would be glad to go to Alaska with his mother and me. You will know, very probably, about these things, and I wish to know at the earliest moment. The salary is, doubtless, \$1700. and a house, like the other salaries in that Presbytery? You did not say anything about a house. Will the Board build as soon as the field is established? I will go up to lay the matter before Kenneth this evening. He will have no objection to remaining here a year or any other length of time necessary, if we find the way is open to go to Nenana - and we do not at this moment see any good reason why we should not go. I am assuming that I would not have to keep a dog-team. I love dogs and know how to handle them, but I am not a dog-masher. I can take my place in a tramp on the trail - climbed Mary's Peak last Tuesday, a good thirty miles tramp and had not had a tramp since I came out of Alaska. Go ahead with those criticisms of the poem. I desire to learn all I can. I had already decided not to let either of those companies have my book MSS. They made a low offer compared with the demands they have made on others I have known. If my stuff can't be brought to the point of being published on its merit, then I do not want it to appear. I can command more than mission wages for preaching, but my life was offered to missions and no man's preaching is any too good for such work. I like especially to preach to men - and they have always seemed to appreciate my efforts. I am sure I would like Nenana. Is the country hilly or quite flat? I shall hope that there are many mountains in sight, if I get up there. Mrs. Diven has now got straightened up from her trying experience with a change of life and is a hearty-looking specimen. She has done a full stint of work all year. I am in excellent health now, and I believe going to a higher altitude would be a pleasant change.

I will write to Doctor Condit right away on my return from seeing Kenneth. Possibly get a letter off this evening. There should be at least fifteen years of the best service of my life just ahead, somewhere on this coast.

I am glad to see Lucile enter the mission service, and it is Kenneth's ambition to become a physician and surgeon and enter the service too. He is an all-around young fellow: Leads meetings of all sorts like a veteran, sings sufficiently well to have been chosen for an important part in the College Chorus, which furnished the music for Commencement week and gave the Conservatory Concert - the most important musical event of the year. He must have training, for he has much more than an ordinary musical talent, so the head of the conservatory says.

1 Now, the CHARACTER of the new college's courses, please.

2 Is the salary \$1700. and house?

3 Furnishings to equip a modest home would have to be taken, I suppose. In so new a place there will doubtless be no extras available for purchase at reasonable rates. Am I right in this?

Mrs. Diven says to tell the Board I will go to Nenana, if the way is clear, and that she will go along and stick right by me. My old friend Fred L. Forbes, the new Sunday School man for Alaska is now at Nenana, or should be by this date. He will expect to plant a mission. I can go as soon as it is known that the way is open in both Alaska and New York, and that the salary is as stated above - what I have heard of the cost of living will surely require the seventeen and a house free of charge.

Hurriedly,

*Robert Joseph Diven.*

July 3, 1917.

Rev. Robert E. Diven, D.D.

Albany, Oregon.

My dear Diven,

Yours of June 26th with copy of your letter to Dr. Condit and your short letter to Dr. Dixon and myself, all came to hand yesterday. Dr. Dixon was absent from the office yesterday, but is back today, and I have just taken up the matter with him.

We are both very joyful to think you are ready to go and take up our work in Nenana. We were in despair about that field, and Condit was getting impatient and wondering what he was to do this summer. Dr. Dixon will send a telegram to Condit tonight recommending that you be appointed by the Board at once to Nenana, and that he go in with you this summer and help you and your family get started in your new field. We are expecting an answer from Dr. Condit in answer to your letter to him, and hope that there will be no time lost in making this arrangement all satisfactory.

I think your letter to Condit was admirable. It was adroit, and at the same time frank and wise, and I believe he will respond to it in the right spirit. At least, if he should turn down your proposition, I believe it would be one of the worst mistakes, to call it by no harsher term, than that ever a man in his position made.

Now about Nenana, and the questions you have asked. The Board has adopted the plan of providing a manse for all Alaska missionaries. In some cases rent has been paid on houses already established. When I was in Alaska I provided my own house, but the Board treats the missionaries a little more liberally now.

It has built a house for Dr. Condit with the aid of the Board of Church Erection fund, and my \$10,000 fund built church and manse for both McBride and Hughes. Of course you would be expected to raise all you could on the field for these things, but we will see you out of difficulty and comfortably housed. You may have to live in a log cabin for awhile, that is what the most of us have to do. The new fund which I am starting will ultimately pay for all of these things as the Board is financing this new Mission on my promise to attempt to raise the fund from new sources. I had no difficulty in raising the \$10,000 fund, and although money is much harder to get now than then, I undertake this job without any fear of failure. However, whether I fail or not, the Board is responsible for your mission now that it is started.

Governor Strong has just paid me a visit. He is in Washington looking after his reappointment, and fighting the Democratic political ring of Alaska who are trying to down him because he did his duty and refused to be a thief. I asked him about the College. He states that \$60,000 was appropriated by Alaska legislature for buildings of the new College and there is an annual Government fund available of \$50,000 for its maintenance. The College Board of fifteen is to be appointed by the Governor, with a working majority in the Fourth District, that is, about Fairbanks, Nenana, &c., but he says that he was the understanding of the legislature and of himself, that little if anything would be done in that matter until next spring. However, the College Board will be constituted and they will be making arrangements for organizations. If Governor Strong is reappointed, I believe the future of the College is assured, and I am also quite certain, if he is able to bring it about, that I will be appointed as the first President. It is started as an Agricultural College and School of Mines. That means of course that there will be a number of courses, Latin and perhaps Greek, the Modern languages, and the whole round of scientific course will be taught with special stress on agriculture, mineralogy, geology, etc. From the first, the aim of it will be to give the youth of Alaska a good college education. However, they can only go as far as their money goes, and it will

a number of years before the appropriation of a section out of every township of the public lands of the Tanana Valley brings a large revenue. Should I be appointed I should at once visit the Agricultural College of Iowa, the Wisconsin University, and several other colleges of the west, and should begin making up my Faculty and studying the matter thoroughly.

In the meantime until the College is started, Kenneth can get just as good a High School education at Fairbanks and doubtless in a year or so at Nenana as he could almost anywhere. There are splendid schools in Alaska, and territorial revenues are ample to support them. They have good teachers because the wages are high.

Nenana lies in one of the most fertile parts of the big Tanana Valley. The soil is a rich, sandy loam. You can raise just as good a garden there, I wager, as you could at Albany. You will doubtless raise your own potatoes, and all garden vegetables, including tomatoes, and you will pronounce them the best you have ever tasted. You will find that the climate, if your experience is the same as mine, the best you ever lived in, and you and your family will have exuberant health.

As to dog-mushing, that is an art very easily learned. You will probably not have to purchase a dog-team the first year or two, but if you find you need one, just send to your "Uncle" Hall Young a requisition and the money will be forthcoming for your team. The Valley at Nenana is quite wide, but hills are in sight and the glorious Mt. McKinley and the Alaskan Range can be seen to good advantage from Nenana.

Of course I do not know fully what the college courses will be, but have answered that question as closely as I can. The salary is \$1700. and mense.

You would better not take any furniture with you, but take your blankets bedding and pictures, and all of your books, dishes, etc. You will find good stores and can purchase everything that you need. You will, I think, find no difficulty in living on the salary of \$1700. - living in the interior of Alaska is much more expensive than living on the coast. After a year or two, you will find you are

able to help yourself. In a new town like Nenana you will have many weddings, and your fees will be large. I never got less than \$10.00 at Fairbanks, and from that up to \$100.00. One year my wedding fees amounted to \$500.00. The conditions will be very much like Fairbanks.

I must now rush to catch the train, but want to express again my great gratification to God and to yourself, that your steps have been turned at last to just the place I think you are fitted for. Please write to me very soon, and tell me the latest thing you know about your plans.

With warm regards, I am, as ever,

Your friend,

Dictated but not signed.

July 3, 1917.

Rev. Robert E. Diven, D.D.

Albany, Oregon.

My dear Diven,

Yours of June 26th with copy of your letter to Dr. Condit and your short letter to Dr. Dixon and myself, all came to hand yesterday. Dr. Dixon was absent from the office yesterday, but is back today, and I have just taken up the matter with him.

We are both very joyful to think you are ready to go and take up our work in Nenana. We were in despair about that field, and Condit was getting impatient and wondering what he was to do this summer. Dr. Dixon will send a telegram to Condit tonight recommending that you be appointed by the Board at once to Nenana, and that he go in with you this summer and help you and your family get started in your new field. We are expecting an answer from Dr. Condit in answer to your letter to him, and hope that there will be no time lost in making this arrangement all satisfactory.

I think your letter to Condit was admirable. It was adroit, and at the same time frank and wise, and I believe he will respond to it in the right spirit. At least, if he should turn down your proposition, I believe it would be one of the worst mistakes, to call it by no harsher term, than that ever a man in his position made.

Now about Nenana, and the questions you have asked. The Board has adopted the plan of providing a manse for all Alaska missionaries. In some cases rent has been paid on houses already established. When I was in Alaska I provided my own house, but the Board treats the missionaries a little more liberally now.

It has built a house for Dr. Condit with the aid of the Board of Church Erection fund, and my \$10,000 fund built church and manse for both McBride and Hughes. Of course you would be expected to raise all you could on the field for these things, but we will see you out of difficulty and comfortably housed. You may have to live in a log cabin for awhile, that is what the most of us have to do. The new fund which I am starting will ultimately pay for all of these things as the Board is financing this new Mission on my promise to attempt to raise the fund from new sources. I had no difficulty in raising the \$10,000 fund, and although money is much harder to get now than then, I undertake this job without any fear of failure. However, whether I fail or not, the Board is responsible for your mission now that it is started.

Governor Strong has just paid me a visit. He is in Washington looking after his reappointment, and fighting the Democratic political ring of Alaska who are trying to down him because he did his duty and refused to be a thief. I asked him about the College. He states that \$60,000 was appropriated by Alaska legislature for buildings of the new College and there is an annual Government fund available of \$50,000 for its maintenance. The College Board of fifteen is to be appointed by the Governor, with a working majority in the Fourth District, that is, about Fairbanks, Nenana, &c., but he says that it was the understanding of the legislature and of himself, that little if anything would be done in that matter until next spring. However, the College Board will be constituted and they will be making arrangements for organizations. If Governor Strong is reappointed, I believe the future of the College is assured, and I am also quite certain, if he is able to bring it about, that I will be appointed as the first President. It is started as an Agricultural College and School of Mines. That means of course that there will be a number of courses, Latin and perhaps Greek, the Modern languages, and the whole round of scientific course will be taught with special stress on agriculture, mineralogy, geology, etc. From the first, the aim of it will be to give the youth of Alaska a good college education. However, they can only go as far as their money goes, and it will

a number of years before the appropriation of a section out of every township of the public lands of the Tanana Valley brings a large revenue. Should I be appointed I should be once visit the Agricultural College of Iowa, the Wisconsin University, and several other colleges of the west, and should begin making up my Faculty and studying the matter thoroughly.

In the meantime until the College is started, Kenneth can get just as good a High School education at Fairbanks and doubtless in a year or so at Nenana as he could almost anywhere. There are splendid schools in Alaska, and territorial revenues are ample to support them. They have good teachers because the wages are high.

Nenana lies in one of the most fertile parts of the big Tanana Valley. The soil is a rich, sandy loam. You can raise just as good a garden there, I wager, as you could at Albany. You will doubtless raise your own potatoes, and all garden vegetables, including tomatoes, and you will pronounce them the best you have ever tasted. You will find that the climate, if your experience is the same as mine, the best you ever lived in, and you and your family will have exuberant health.

As to dog-mushing, that is an art very easily learned. You will probably not have to purchase a dog-team the first year or two, but if you find you need one, just send to your "Uncle" Hall Young a requisition and the money will be forthcoming for your team. The Valley at Nenana is quite wide, but hills are in sight and the glorious Mt. McKinley and the Alaskan Range can be seen to good advantage from Nenana.

Of course I do not know fully what the college courses will be, but have answered that question as closely as I can. The salary is \$1700. and manse.

You would better not take any furniture with you, but take your blankets bedding and pictures, and all of your books, dishes, etc. You will find good stores and can purchase everything that you need. You will, I think, find no difficulty in living on the salary of \$1700. - living in the interior of Alaska is much more expensive than living on the coast. After a year or two, you will find you are

able to help yourself. In a new town like Nenana you will have many weddings, and your fees will be large. I never got less than \$10.00 at Fairbanks, and from that up to \$100.00. One year my wedding fees amounted to \$500.00. The conditions will be very much like Fairbanks.

I must now rush to catch the train, but want to express again my great gratification to God and to yourself, that your steps have been turned at last to just the place I think you are fitted for. Please write to me very soon, and tell me the latest thing you know about your plans.

With warm regards, I am, as ever,

Your friend,

Dictated but not signed.

July 5, 1917.

Rev. James H. Condit, D.D.

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Doctor Condit;

Yours of June 21st is at hand, and has been taken up with Dr. Dixon, also your letters to him of about the same date have been submitted to me for reading. Dr. Dixon sent you the telegram concerning the appointing of Diven to Nenana and your going in to the interior to place him, etc. Dr. Dixon will write you fully concerning this point.

We both are in full sympathy with you concerning the Sunday School Missionary matter, and Dr. Dixon expressed his intention of writing to Dr. Henry of the Sunday School Board about it. My personal opinion, however, is that since Dr. Matthews, as you said in your letter to me, has been very urgent in the matter, and Dr. Forbes is already appointed as Sunday School Missionary for Alaska, that he will be allowed to stay. However he ought to be largely at your disposal as to the places he visits and perhaps if Diven is sent at once to Nenana, and we are unable to find any suitable man this summer for Ruby, you might make use of Dr. Forbes in holding the fort there until we can hustle up the man. The Board will stand back of both of the missions at Nenana and Ruby, but will look to me to finance them, if I am able to raise this projected new fund of \$7000. As before, I shall turn this fund in to the Board for new work in Alaska as fast as it is raised.

Now in regard to the paragraph in your letter about the special fund, and a similar paragraph on the same point in your letter to Dr. Dixon. You say in your letter to me:

"Now as to the Special Fund, I note that you say that the \$10,000 was applied directly 'as asked for by yourself and others on the field.' I had no part in the distribution of this special fund either directly or indirectly. I have raised the question with Dr. Dixon as to the use of any part of this fund for the Anchorage salary or work inasmuch as that work was well instituted before the appeal was made for the Special fund. It seems to me that Anchorage should have been provided for from the regular fund."

If you will look over the files of my correspondence with you and yours with Dr. Dixon in the spring and summer of 1915, you will find that the work at Anchorage and Matanuska was only undertaken by the Board on my guarantee to raise the new fund for that special work and other new work in Alaska, and that I started to raise that fund directly after the General Assembly of 1915, its special object being first of all Anchorage and Matanuska. In your letter of July 28th, 1915, you write thus:

"In reply to your recent communication with respect to the work at Anchorage and along the line of the new railroad, I agree with you as to the advisability of placing Mr. McBride at Anchorage temporarily, if he is willing to go. I enclose a copy of my letter to him regarding this proposed change.

I am also writing to Mr. Olin suggesting that it will require from \$250 to \$300 to finance this preliminary work providing a tent and other necessary expenses of Mr. McBride in getting established. I take it for granted that this much is available.

I agree with you, also, as to the use of the fund which you are to raise for the support of two or three missionaries in this new field. At present we can get along very well with a man at Anchorage who shall be free to dry out the land. There are comparatively few men at work on the railroad this summer, but next year will see more camps. A large part of the Anchorage population will probably return to the states for the winter as there is nothing for them to do at present. Under these conditions it would be perfectly satisfactory to obtain the subscriptions to this fund payable in one, two, or three years, and available as the work opens up. There should be money available for the purchase of church lots in new towns. It is very important that we have the 'sinews of war' early in the day so as to take advantage of sales such as that held at Anchorage."

There are other letters from you that same season which show that you understood at that time that the new fund was to finance Anchorage and Matanuska. Doubtless this had slipped your mind, when you wrote your recent letters. As to your part in the distribution of this fund, <sup>in</sup> my letter of July 15th and subsequent letters, I repeatedly asked you and Mr. McBride for your wishes in regard to the money needed from this new fund, and in your letters to Mr. Olin you made recommendations as to the appropriations from the fund for moneys needed at this new field. How then can you say that you had no part in the distribution of

this new fund either directly or indirectly? On the contrary, three quarters of it has been spent directly on your application. You doubtless had forgotten this when you wrote this last letter. So far as the work at Anchorage being started before the new fund was started, Mr. McBride did not go to the new town for two or three months after I had started to raise the money for that work. However, this is an unimportant point.

The new fund which I am to raise, is to be on a slightly different basis. The Board will appropriate the money for Nenana and Ruby out of its general Alaska fund, and these missions will be provided for whether or not I am successful in raising my new fund of \$7000. But they do this in the confidence that I will be successful, and of course I shall make every effort to raise that fund. As before, the Board will take your recommendations as to the moneys needed to start the work at Nenana and to re-open the work at Ruby, and will ask me as before to o.k. the checks drawn for this work. You need not fear any interference with any of your plans from me, but I shall stand back of them and do what I can to finance them.

I have had a visit from Governor Strong and his wife, who ran up from Washington for a day or two. The Governor has not yet got his reappointment, but we are quite confident here that he will receive it. Secretary Lane is strongly for him, and the letters that I got from Wilson through Dr. Halsey and with Dr. Thompson got to him personally, have been received and read by the President, and he promises to take up the matter directly with Secretary Lane. Yours also reached Secretary Lane at least, and as the whole concensus of opinion on the part of those who really count in Alaska seem to be for Strong, I do not see how the President can do anything else but appoint him. Governor Strong confronted Sulzer in Lane's presence and showed him and the machine up in good shape, and Lane then and there, as well as at other times expressed his unqualified approval of the Governor and his position. From what Governor Strong says, it seems very probable also that Wickersham will get the delegateship. I do hope that the machine will be thoroughly downed.

## THE ATTIC OF THE HOMESTEAD.

In the attic of the Farm-house,  
The attic of the Old Red Brick out at the  
farm,  
High above the noise and riot,  
In this room so dim and quiet,  
Like some solemn vizaged diet  
There fulfilling life's grim fiat,  
There encumb'ring things are stored out  
at the farm.

In the attic of the homestead,  
The home we've known through genera-  
tions late and yore,  
Are the "Hopes long used and broken,"  
Dreams long winged and here forgotten,  
Ghosts of words, soft, sweetly spoken,—  
All, aye all now merely token  
Life that was, mere images of those no  
more.

In this attic, dusty, stilly,  
Sacred precinct, dedicated, up the oak'n  
stairs,  
Are old chests of letters paling,  
Uniforms now fast decaying,  
Guns, canteens, an old flag fading,  
Heaps and piles of trifles, making  
Of this room a shrine ancestral for these  
our cares.

Would you banish from this attic—  
This old room so strangely silent, ghostly  
sighing—

Any of these battered keep-sakes,  
Broad brimmed hats, swords, old epau-  
lettes,

Sickles, cradles, useless gimcracks,  
Spinning wheel and home-made hay-  
rakes,

Making of this chamber one to tempt to  
preying rifling?

Nay, not so, for in this attic  
of the Farm House, where the silence  
seems a prayer,

When the rain is softly falling,  
And the winds are voices calling,  
Or the wierdly drifting souging  
Of the snow's fall seem some moaning  
Kindred homestead spirit seeking restful  
quiet there—

Then I up the strange old stairway  
Love to go and ponder, wonder—out at  
the farm—

On the loves of our grandfathers,  
Of the battles of our fathers,  
Wilderness and nameless dangers,  
Hopes and joys and sore disasters,  
Which they met, enjoyed or suffered, ere  
I was born.

And I'm thinking, oft times marvel  
When I have in mind this attic out at the  
farm,

How the Father hath us favored,  
Blessed and cherished, brought us for-  
ward—

How our comforts, nameless helps toward  
Ease of labor, speeding onward  
Tasks and duties, make of life a thing so  
changed out at the farm.

In the attic of the Farm House—  
The attic of the Old Red Brick out at the  
farm—

High above the noise and riot,  
In that room so dim and quiet,  
Like some solemn visaged diet,  
There fulfilling life's sad fiat.  
Let the dear old family relics 'scape from  
further storm.

*For my friend Rev. S. S. Hall Young  
from the author—*

*S. H. Priest  
-in-ville, Ind. 1917.*

Everything is war, war, here, and it is very hard to get the attention of the public and even of the churches for anything else. Campaigns for money will, most of them, have to wait until fall, by which time we hope the churches will be able to think of something else than the Red Cross Fund and the war.

Dr. Marquis has not yet signified his intention in regard to the General Secretaryship of the Board. A letter that I got from him a few days ago makes me think that he will probably decline the position. The Board will not meet again until September. It is a very trying condition to plans for Dr. Dixon and all the rest of us. In case Dr. Marquis does decline the appointment, many of us will make a determined effort to have Dr. Dixon made General Secretary with the same authority offered to Dr. Marquis, and the same general reconstruction of the Board. In the meantime we are all on "tenter hooks."

Lassie and her children and I, are very much enjoying our summer in the cottage by the seashore, and are out canoeing every day. I am not entirely well, but improving.

With warm regards to Mrs. Condit, Faith and the boys, and my blessings on Ruth when you write to her, I am, as always,

Your friend,

July 5, 1917.

Rev. James H. Condit, D.D.

Juneau, Alaska.

My dear Doctor Condit;

Yours of June 21st is at hand, and has been taken up with Dr. Dixon, also your letters to him of about the same date have been submitted to me for reading. Dr. Dixon sent you the telegram concerning the appointing of Diven to Nenana and your going in to the interior to place him, etc. Dr. Dixon will write you fully concerning this point.

We both are in full sympathy with you concerning the Sunday School Missionary matter, and Dr. Dixon expressed his intention of writing to Dr. Henry of the Sunday School Board about it. My personal opinion, however, is that since Dr. Matthews, as you said in your letter to me, has been very urgent in the matter, and Dr. Forbes is already appointed as Sunday School Missionary for Alaska, that he will be allowed to stay. However he ought to be largely at your disposal as to the places he visits and perhaps if Diven is sent at once to Nenana, and we are unable to find any suitable man this summer for Ruby, you might make use of Dr. Forbes in holding the fort there until we can hustle up the man. The Board will stand back of both of the missions at Nenana and Ruby, but will look to me to finance them, if I am able to raise this projected new fund of \$7000. As before, I shall turn this fund in to the Board for new work in Alaska as fast as it is raised.

Now in regard to the paragraph in your letter about the special fund, and a similar paragraph on the same point in your letter to Dr. Dixon. You say in your letter to me:

"Now as to the Special Fund, I note that you say that the \$10,000 was applied directly 'as asked for by yourself and others on the field.' I had no part in the distribution of this special fund either directly or indirectly. I have raised the question with Mr. Dixon as to the use of any part of this fund for the Anchorage salary or work inasmuch as that work was well instituted before the appeal was made for the Special fund. It seems to me that Anchorage should have been provided for from the regular fund."

If you will look over the files of my correspondence with you and yours with Mr. Dixon in the spring and summer of 1915, you will find that the work at Anchorage and Matanuska was only undertaken by the Board on my guarantee to raise the new fund for that special work and other new work in Alaska, and that I started to raise that fund directly after the General Assembly of 1915, its special object being first of all Anchorage and Matanuska. In your letter of July 28th, 1915, you write thus:

"In reply to your recent communication with respect to the work at Anchorage and along the line of the new railroad, I agree with you as to the advisability of placing Mr. McBride at Anchorage temporarily, if he is willing to go. I enclose a copy of my letter to him regarding this proposed change.

I am also writing to Mr. Olin suggesting that it will require from \$250 to \$300 to finance this preliminary work providing a tent and other necessary expenses of Mr. McBride in getting established. I take it for granted that this much is available.

I agree with you, also, as to the use of the fund which you are to raise for the support of two or three missionaries in this new field. At present we can get along very well with a man at Anchorage who shall be free to spy out the land. There are comparatively few men at work on the railroad this summer, but next year will see more camps. A large part of the Anchorage population will probably return to the states for the winter as there is nothing for them to do at present. Under these conditions it would be perfectly satisfactory to obtain the subscriptions to this fund payable in one, two, or three years, and available as the work opens up. There should be money available for the purchase of church lots in new towns. It is very important that we have the 'sinews of war' early in the day so as to take advantage of sales such as that held at Anchorage."

There are other letters from you that same season which show that you understood at that time that the new fund was to finance Anchorage and Matanuska. Doubtless this had slipped your mind, when you wrote your recent letters. As to your part in the distribution of this fund, <sup>in</sup> my letter of July 15th and subsequent letters, I repeatedly asked you and Mr. McBride for your wishes in regard to the money needed from this new fund, and in your letters to Mr. Olin you made recommendations as to the appropriations from the fund for money needed at this new field. How then can you say that you had no part in the distribution of

this new fund either directly or indirectly? On the contrary, three quarters of it has been spent directly on your application. You doubtless had forgotten this when you wrote this last letter. So far as the work at Anchorage being started before the new fund was started, Mr. McBride did not go to the new town for two or three months after I had started to raise the money for that work. However, this is an unimportant point.

The new fund which I am to raise, is to be on a slightly different basis. The Board will appropriate the money for Nenana and Ruby out of its general Alaska fund, and those missions will be provided for whether or not I am successful in raising my new fund of \$7000. But they do this in the confidence that I will be successful, and of course I shall make every effort to raise that fund. As before, the Board will take your recommendations as to the moneys needed to start the work at Nenana and to re-open the work at Ruby, and will ask me as before to o.k. the checks drawn for this work. You need not fear any interference with any of your plans from me, but I shall stand back of them and do what I can to finance them.

I have had a visit from Governor Strong and his wife, who ran up from Washington for a day or two. The Governor has not yet got his reappointment, but we are quite confident here that he will receive it. Secretary Lane is strongly for him, and the letters that I got from Wilson through Dr. Halsey and that Dr. Thompson got to him personally, have been received and read by the President, and he promises to take up the matter directly with Secretary Lane. Yours also reached Secretary Lane at least, and as the whole consensus of opinion on the part of those who really count in Alaska seem to be for Strong, I do not see how the President can do anything else but appoint him. Governor Strong confronted Sulzer in Lane's presence and showed him and the machine up in good shape, and Lane then and there, as well as at other times expressed his unqualified approval of the Governor and his position. From what Governor Strong says, it seems very probable also that Wickersham will get the delegateship. I do hope that the machine will be thoroughly downed.

Everything is war, war, here, and it is very hard to get the attention of the public and even of the churches for anything else. Campaigns for money will, most of them, have to wait until fall, by which time we hope the churches will be able to think of something else than the Red Cross Fund and the war.

Dr. Marquis has not yet signified his intention in regard to the General Secretaryship of the Board. A letter that I got from him a few days ago makes me think that he will probably decline the position. The Board will not meet again until September. It is a very trying condition to plans for Dr. Dixon and all the rest of us. In case Dr. Marquis does decline the appointment, many of us will make a determined effort to have Dr. Dixon make General Secretary with the same authority offered to Dr. Marquis, and the same general reconstruction of the Board. In the meantime we are all on "tenter hooks."

Lassie and her children and I, are very much enjoying our summer in the cottage by the seashore, and are out canoeing every day. I am not entirely well, but improving.

With warm regards to Mrs. Condit, Faith and the boys, and my blessings on Ruth when you write to her, I am, as always,

Your friend,

July 5, 1917

Mr. W. B. Seymour,  
Brown Brothers & Company,  
Bond Department, 59 Wall Street, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Seymour,

I received your letter of July 2nd, also today the receipt for the \$9.00 due June 28th. Thank you for both.

As to your question whether I had among my writings anything that would be of vital interest to boys of twelve, - my "Alaska Days with John Muir" published by Revell Company, has some thrilling stories of adventure that might interest your boys. If you get that for them, get also John Muir's "Stickeen" published by Houghton, Mifflin Co. It is Muir's story of my dog and ought to be read with my "Alaska Days".

I am -

Very truly yours,

JUL 7 1917

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,

NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, BOSTON,

BROWN, SHIPLEY & CO.,

LONDON

BOND DEPARTMENT

59 WALL STREET, NEW YORK

TELEPHONE HANOVER 5140

IN YOUR REPLY

REFER TO WBS

July 6, 1917

Rev. S. Hall Young, D. D.,

Board of Home Missions,

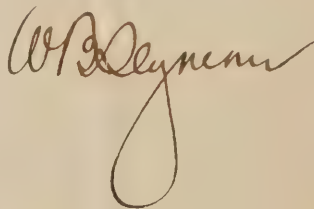
156 Fifth Avenue, New York.

My dear Doctor:

I have your very kind favor of the  
5th, and shall certainly procure copies of your "Alaska  
Days" and John Muir's "Stickeen".

Thanking you very much for your kindly  
interest, I remain,

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. B. Brown". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping loop at the bottom.

JUL 17 1917

FRANK C. CARPENTER  
NEWSPAPER CORRESPONDENT  
1223 CONNECTICUT AVENUE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

July 16, 1917.

Dr. S. Hall Young  
156 Fifth Avenue  
New York, N. Y.

My dear Dr. Young:-

I am so sorry Frank is not here to answer your very kind letter of the 13th. He has gone on a newspaper hunting trip in connection with his series of letters on American industries as related to the war, and is at present in Duluth.

He will be greatly interested in what you say about his Alaska book. I dare say he will not feel like publishing anything on Alaska in book form until after the war.

We shall be looking for your "Anvil of the North" and shall, I know, enjoy it as we have your other books. I will send a copy of your letter to Frank and you will probably hear from him soon..

Very truly yours,

*Joanna S. Carpenter*  
(Mrs Frank C.)

July 19, 1917.

Miss Mary C. Day,  
112 Jefferson Street,  
Wellsville, New York.

My dear Miss Day,

Yours of June 27th has been too long unanswered. Press of business and absence from the office is my excuse.

I thank you very sincerely for the bright Muir letter to the Pattons. How it brings back scenes of our first trips together! Of course its humorous references to the "dear, dazy, dry-rotted clergymen and clergymomen" bars it from general publication; but I can appreciate the letter, and have taken the liberty of copying it.

I do not know whether you would approve, or whether it would be wise to send a copy of this letter to Muir's biographer, Professor Badè. What do think about that? Is it impertinent in me to ask how this letter to the Pattons came into your possession, and in what publication it was printed? There is much between the lines of the letter which I read, but which a stranger would probably not understand. There was only one of those missionaries who called Muir "an infidel" and he did not reflect the opinion of the others. It amused Muir when he heard it. He was, in my opinion, as far from being an infidel as any man I ever knew.

Very sincerely yours,

Dictated but not signed.

4  
X  
D

Hudaburg. July. 30-17.

Rev. A. Hall Young. A. S.  
156 Fifth Ave. N. Y.

Dear Rocky Young: Occasional a severe  
muscular pain in his back to some one: one whom a  
person knows to be in deep and sincere sympathy  
with the persons of his motives. All my relations  
with you have been such as to give a confidence  
that makes me turn instinctively to you with my  
servilities. I am glad to tell a person working to  
other persons as a sort of safety valve to the  
The things I refer to have a course to go with  
my own here. There are some conditions that  
make it exceedingly difficult, if the end to be  
accomplished is the building up of a clean minded  
moral, spiritual community. Unless the pastor  
of the minister be to train his people so that they know  
and live good & it be clean living I am I have a  
false conception of the nature of this holy office.  
The outward glamour can be as good as nothing.  
That the natives have done here in the last two years  
is exceptional. I believe that the mission station  
can never delay & a more fascinating one  
than this cannot I with the building of the  
Hudaburg. The natives have at some times been in  
but the things in movement. Unless the vision be

2  
I am so weary of a great spiritual-minded  
people, to whom the Law is the Law, God, then  
these outward things are only a means to an end.  
I am so weary of a community of clean and  
glaring souls. Because I can see so little evidence  
to this sort. True, conditions do not seem hopeful.  
To live and labor under some of the circumstances that  
confront us is to say the least depressing. I hesitate to  
speak of some of these things because it is difficult  
to do so with Christian moderation. The subtle opposition  
of the government to the mission work  
at this point is little short of diabolical. I will not  
overload you with any accounts of the low down, mean  
contentable things that have been resorted to here  
to render ineffective the work we have tried to do.  
Mr. Hawksworth, the former Principal of the school,  
(now in Mr. Butler's place) is I think the meanest man  
I was ever known in contact with. If the devil  
could have turned loose a man like that on  
he would have stood a good show to have had him  
"beaten" in less than three months, and beaten back  
again a single pass or combat. This is strong  
language, but the fact justifies it. I cannot be blaming  
him under the above circumstances. I am, I think, my own  
Christian spirit has suffered. Everyone knows  
that what this place needs a brother, himself is  
some adequate medical services. These things  
measures are taken and we will see  
practically all of them in concrete form.

3  
also in the way of measuring. Now last year  
the death out number the birth two to one. Not when  
Mr. Alabama made up his mind he could get no  
assurance that the government would not run  
opposition, perhaps refuse a permit to come  
on the Reservation. He has a fund lying in the  
bank, with good backing in the East. Towards getting  
a taskila but what good is it?

Three facts are sufficient to give you a hint at  
our perplexities from this angle. I know it is known that  
this was an organized propaganda thirty years before  
we came here. We cannot rightly be accused of inciting  
the opposition.

In the second place, I have no adequate means of  
transport. The Star is a worthless little craft, but a  
service cannot take a family I have aboard and  
land have any comfort at all. So far I have  
managed to keep moving enough that I have ~~not~~  
missed the service, <sup>only</sup> not able to since it  
people go away in the spring. Sometimes the  
family are a good. I suspect it is a coincidence  
but every time yet our youngest has been the worse  
for it, a cough for some stomach disorder. You doubtless  
know her. <sup>(Star)</sup> She has no accommodations. Neither  
I nor I have nor I can straighten up in the cabin.  
When we are off her the physical impressions  
are much the same as they are at a dance come  
husking. I have a very encouraging work set  
at night. A good work can be done at Craig, but

within a measure of getting a reasonable time to see to  
myself. Mr. Manning gets to being occasionally  
sometimes I leave the family. But this is not  
fair to them. They have stayed here alone for two  
or three days at a time with no white woman  
within twenty miles and only one native woman  
in the town and she a stranger. Not many women  
are brave enough to do it. My boat is the only boat  
that is here. I'll row away, and Mrs Howl and the children  
will be here, and anything will be right wrong they could  
not even get wood to me.

I know quite well that there is no need to mention  
Boat to the Board. If the Board would let me discuss  
on the "Star" I think I could get out a boat except the  
difficulty. But of course this is the difficulty.

The third matter that I want to speak of is  
more a personal affair. The only reason I  
mention it is because it has a direct bearing on  
what I am able to do here. This is a debt of about  
\$250.00 I have been struggling to get paid. I suppose  
I have no one to blame except myself that I have let it  
happen. I ask for aid from the Board of Education  
while I was in the Seminary. I had a strong  
desire to get into something of an educational  
character rather than taking a Bachelor's when I  
finished my Seminary work. While it would  
not have been a misapprehension of funds  
still when that aid was granted to assist in coming  
me for training for an active ministry. I think

4  
I would not do it without asking for this aid. I was an  
Elder in the Park View Presbyterian Church, East End  
Littleton when I entered the Seminary. Rev. Williamson  
in a letter to a brother in the Session recommended me  
for this aid. I held out against it. I have never been  
able to square up since. Now that the cost of living  
is so enormous this debt is like a nightmare. The main  
point at which this touches my work here is on the  
fuel question. The cost of coal is prohibitive. That  
it is a loss of \$1000 for wood for fuel. To get  
wood cut costs heavily. To save I have cut my  
own wood ever since I came here. It has cost  
much time and strength. I shall have to pass  
the ministerial deadline before I am eligible at  
the present rate. Since the Wance as I have almost  
long known it, and then the church building has been  
a hard strain on my physical strength. Though  
the purpose has been largely realized in building the  
Wance as I did still I am not sure whether  
the end in this case justifies the means. I do not  
know the church building would not have been  
possible without the Wance. I know this is a standing  
object lesson to the natives. I think I told you  
of the government house built last fall. It cost a  
great \$2500. It stands on wooden posts. The Wance  
rests on a concrete wall. Other comparisons are of such  
a similar nature. The interior finish on the Wance  
has attracted considerable interest. I do  
not know how far it is to see in a few days  
ago. The Board has sent \$190 into the building. But  
my study has suffered. I can see it has. I must  
feel that I can suffer the sacrifice more easily  
than to continue to continue.

Finally: When I finish my work in the  
Seminary the last medical school I can do

was to the effect that I should get to a nice, sunny  
and fresh air. I was on the train for some  
years. At last I have been so much  
suffering that I must take care  
of myself more than I have since I came  
here. Please do not mention this in any  
correspondence.

Mrs Howe, as we must say that she did  
not have in mind any effort on your part  
or the East P. W. Coast to induce the Bureau  
to ~~take~~ change their attitude towards Dr. Lance.  
All she wanted was to set forth clearly just what  
the moral conditions are and what the factors are  
that have given rise to these conditions. So long  
as the present personnel of the Bureau is  
retained no change of policy on these matters  
can be hoped for. "Examine is to me, to his  
idols. Leave him alone".

I have tried to give you these facts as nearly as  
I could. If I were talking to you personally, I think  
some of the facts & conditions can be modified  
in some way, we may be compelled to change your  
opinion.

Fraternally yours,  
J. L. Howe.

*File Dyson*

September 1917.

To the Board of Home Missions

of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

Brethren;

In case the Board adopts the plan of reorganization of the Alaska Office recommended by the Officers of the Board in conference, I would respectfully apply for the office of the Secretary of the Board for Alaska. I would like the opportunity of thus doing more than ever for the great land of my love.

In regard to the salary. I feel that I have not heretofore received a salary commensurate with that of other officers of the Board doing a like service. In my old age I have had thrown upon me the burden of bringing up and supporting another helpless family - my daughter and her three little children. During the past two years my present salary has been entirely inadequate and had it not been for my two books, published in that time, we would have been unable to live and work. As it is, with the revenues from my books, I have still been obliged to incur debts.

I feel that I shall be in a position now to do better work than ever for the Board, and for Alaska; but I cannot undertake this work for a less salary than three thousand dollars per annum.

Respectfully,

MEMORANDUM.

The Reorganization of the Alaska Office.

I. Present Status.

The present status of the Alaska work with the Board is not, and has not been, satisfactory. Alaska has been, in a sense, outlawed from the regular work of the Board. During the most of the past twenty years, especially from 1897 to 1903, and from 1910 to the present time, whenever forward work was to be undertaken on account of the increasing development of Alaska, in most cases the board has refused to appropriate the money necessary for this new work from the regular funds of the Board, and the money had to be raised by special pleas made to the churches and to individuals, generally by Dr. Young. For the fiscal year of 1915-16 he raised as a special fund for New Work in Alaska \$10,580.58. This sum was secured from sources outside the regular contributions to the Board - principally from individuals. This money was expended as follows:

The traveling expenses of Dr. Young while raising this money; the purchase of material for lectures on Alaska; the full salaries of Revs. McBride and Hughes to July 1, 1917, and their expenses to their fields, and traveling expenses and dwelling house on the field; expenses of Rev. Shriver and family to Cordova; church building at Anchorage; dog team for the Matanuska mission, etc., etc.

This fund is now exhausted, there remaining but the small balance of \$377.12. The question now is, how is this pioneer work in Alaska, so promising and so necessary, including also our new mission at Nenana, to which we have sent Mr. Diven to be financed? And what about the other new work opening up in this great Empire of the Northwest? What is the status of the work already established?

II. Recommendations.

1. Alaska should henceforth be considered as truly a field demanding the constant care of the Board, and entitled to a share of its regular funds as any of the Western States.

2. Owing to the peculiar situation of Alaska, its great promise and its rapid growth, Alaska's missions should form a special department of the Home Mission Board, under the management of a man whose title would be Assistant Secretary for Alaska, Secretary for Alaska, or similar title. He should, under the supervision of the General Secretary, conduct all the Alaska correspondence of the Board; make up the annual Alaska budget with the assistance of the General Missionary and the Chairmen of the Home Mission Committees of the Presbyteries; find and secure suitable men for the field; prepare the necessary Alaska literature of the Board; and conduct campaigns for funds needed in this work.

3. The Lecture Department of the Alaska office should be under the direct supervision of the Financial Secretary, in consultation with the General Secretary and Secretary for Alaska. An effort should be made to secure the adoption of the Alaska missionaries by special churches or groups of churches, and their continual support guaranteed. Such special equipment of the Alaska missionaries as is necessary for their comfort and health, and the success of their work, such as fur coats and robes, dog-teams, boats, etc. should be secured by the Secretary for Alaska from funds which not otherwise come to the Board.

4. The Secretary for Alaska should institute and carry on an insistent and persistent campaign for a fuller comity between, and, perhaps ultimately, the organic union of the various evangelical churches in Alaska.

5. The Secretary for Alaska should have a room to himself which he can fit up with maps, pictures and book-shelves as an Alaska office; and he should have the full time of a competent secretary.

6. The Secretary for Alaska should receive a salary of not less than Three Thousand Dollars (\$3000.00) per annum.

SEP 18 1917

Newport News, Va.

Sept. 17, 1917.

Dr. S. Hall Young ,

New York, N.Y.

My dear Dr. Young :

Doubtless you are thinking that I have either expired or forgotten that such a city as New York existed. Your two letters were indeed welcome rays of sunshine to me during my stay in the hospital. Arrived home Saturday from the hospital and am now making an effort to catch up with my belated correspondence. You will be interested to know that the operation was a success yet I am and will have to take things easy for a few weeks. Let me thank you for your very kind invitation to visit Mrs. Kleinschmidt and you at your cottage in New Jersey.

You will be surprised to know that I am not returning to Alaska this fall but will enter army service in the states. This is not a hasty step but is the final decision on this matter which I have had under consideration since last winter. Have been in touch with Dr. Condit and others regarding this matter since the first of the summer and he has been aware of the probability of such action. It has been a hard matter for me to decide as the ties of my field are still strong in their hold upon me. To leave the field at such a stage of growth is painful to me yet the call to my God and country is the one to be answered. I realize only too well what little I have accomplished and at such an expense to the Board. I am anxious to return to Alaska in work similar to what I had, at the conclusion of the war if such a plan is feasible to the Board but the uncertainty as to its duration and results makes it impossible to plan for the future. The presence of a Rev. Mr. Brown (Methodist) in Anchorage who has conducted services at various times for Mr. Mc Bride and teaches his adult bible class, and who is anxious to engage in active

Christian work suggests a good man on the field to take over my work if the Board and Presbytery deem it a wise step. I have written to Dr. Condit and McBride regarding this point and they will receive my letter in time to consider this matter at the fall meeting of Presbytery to be held at Cordova the last of this month.

Regarding my immediate future my plans are somewhat unsettled.

Supt. J. M. Someradike of the Board of Publication and Sabbath-School has invited me to call on him in Philadelphia to confer regarding the recent tangle occasioned by the entrance of Dr. Forbes as Sunday School missionary in the Alaskan field. I expect to do this the last of this month and if you are to be in New York or vicinity at that time I would be glad to run over and confer with you and the Board relative to Alaskan affairs and my former field in particular if you would care for such a step. Kindly advise me as to your wishes.

I have been in touch with Gov. Strong, the War Dept., Dr. Chapman and Radcliffe, and the Federated Council of Churches in regard to securing a chaplaincy but have received very little hope of landing one at least till next year. The Y.M.C.A. has offered me work in their army camps but I have not accepted same. If nothing definite in the way of a chaplaincy looms up shortly am planning to enter the ranks as an enlisted man. My physical condition will prevent my passing an exam before the middle of October but after that date if I have not secured any definite information I will enter the regular army. I have had 3 years of military training at college which will stand me in good stead in this respect. Kindly call the attention of Dr. Dixon to this letter.

With all good wishes for you and yours and trusting soon to have the pleasure of meeting you in person, I am,

Cordially yours,

J. L. Hughes.



Oct 10, 1917

My dear Mr. Conway

There is not  
much use of getting "het up"  
although I feel rather warm  
over Dionis telegram. I think  
the point you raise an im-  
portant one that the American  
people should raise all they  
can. Also it is important  
that the Board should know  
definitely what the church &  
universe will actually cost.  
A sudden jump of \$2000,  
on a \$5000 proposition is  
suggestive of guess work, and  
we want none of that.  
How would it do to

Sent a night message to him -  
what as follows.

"Get definite bid for  
Church & manse & report to  
Board. Unusually difficult  
for Board to provide money.  
Must raise largest possible  
sum in Atenana. Letter follows."

Then wrote him fully.

It seems to me that in these  
war times you have a full  
contract.

Cordially yours  
John W. D.

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
OF THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

September 10, 1917.

Rev. A. W. Halsey, D.D.  
Board of Foreign Missions,  
156 Fifth Avenue, New York.

My dear Dr. Halsey,

The Governorship of Alaska is still undecided, and I am writing President Wilson again, by your kind offices, in hopes of inducing him to decide the matter at once. Secretary Lane is pronouncedly in favor of Strong's reappointment, and these politicians have taken the matter over Lane's head direct to the President. Nearly all of the political gang opposed to Strong are Catholics, and the man whom they are putting up as opposing candidate, is also a Catholic.

I do not know whether Tumulty would be influenced by this fact, but I fear that if Mr. Riggs is appointed, our new University and all public offices will be swung as far as possible towards the Jesuits who control the whole Catholic Church in Alaska. They were notoriously opposed to prohibition, and are in with the selfish monopolies who are trying to control the big mines and fisheries of Alaska for their own profit.

If you think my letter to the President is the right thing, and will get it to the President in the same way as you did the former one, I shall be much obliged.

Truly your friend,

*L. Hall Young*

SEP 13 1917

*Dear Dr. Have sent on your letter.  
Kindly let me know what response  
you obtain. Politics are "unresolvable"  
our fashion  
Sept 12/17  
A. W. Halsey*

September 13, 1917.

Mr. George D. Edwards,  
Commonwealth Building, Fourth Ave.  
Pittsburgh, Penna.

My dear Mr. Edwards,

Yours enclosing check for \$105.00  
is just received, and I am sending a temporary receipt for  
the same, which will be followed by the receipt of the Treas-  
urer of the Board.

Please express to all the generous contributors  
of this amount, my warmest thanks.

Very cordially yours,

SEP 12 1917

4134

JOHN W. HERRON, PRESIDENT.  
GEORGE D. EDWARDS, VICE PRES.  
DAVID H. THOMAS, SECRETARY.  
C. W. ORWIG, TREASURER.  
WM M. SHERIDAN, ASST. SECY & TREAS.



GEORGE H. STENGEL, TRUST OFFICER.  
WILLIAM HAGEMAN, ASST. TRUST OFFICER.  
EDWIN W. RIEGER, ASST. TRUST OFFICER.

# Commonwealth Trust Company of Pittsburgh.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$ 2,500,000.

Commonwealth Building,  
FOURTH AVENUE.

CABLE ADDRESS,  
COMTRUSTCO.

Sept. 11, 1917.

Rev. S. Hall Young,

156 Fifth Ave.,

New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Young:

We take pleasure in handing you herewith voucher check No. 92 of the Shadyside Presbyterian Church to your order for \$105.00, being the amount of two subscriptions received toward a special fund that you are raising for work in Alaska.

There may be other contributions still coming in for this and if so, we will forward at once.

Very respectfully,

*Geo. D. Edwards*  
Treas.

GDE/W

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
OF THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

OFFICE OF SECRETARY  
M

October 2, 1917.

Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.,

156 Fifth Avenue, Manhattan.

My dear Dr. Young:-

The Board of Home Missions in Executive Session at its meeting on Thursday last took the following action concerning Alaska:-

"Action regarding Alaska as recommended by the Executive Staff was approved, with the modification that Dr. Young's presentsalary be increased by \$500. when funds for this purpose have been secured.

"Recognizing the peculiar importance of the Alaska work, the great promise and rapid growth of our civilization on this last great American frontier, the Board makes the following provision:

- "1. That the General Secretary be asked to give this field special consideration, paying it a visit at the earliest date convenient.
- "2. That, in directing the administration under the New York Secretary, as prescribed by the General Assembly, the Executive Council adjust budgets as far as possible to the enlargement of the work in that territory.
- "3. That the eminent services of Dr. S. Hall Young be recognized in the ampler support provided below and in giving him a voice among all the churches in furtherance of a cause to which he has already contributed a life-time's devotion and self-sacrificing hardships.
- "4. That since this Board conducts an evangelical work in Alaska larger than that of any other communion, the Executive Staff be directed to take such initiative in the Home Missions Council and otherwise as shall so far as possible safeguard this great new civilization against the evils of sectarian confusion and inefficiency. The Board announces its desire to join in the formation and support of a union evangelical church for Alaska or some other program through which evangelical forces shall cooperate and not compete.

Dr. Young

-2-

October 2, 1917.

"5. That in the Board's supply office and elsewhere in the exhibit of the Board's work an eminent place be given Alaska and its needs.

"6. That it be recommended to the Board that Dr. Young's salary be increased \$500. when additional funds are provided for that purpose."

Very sincerely yours,

*Wm. L. ...*  
Clerk of the Board.

Copy

November 1917.

Notes on Alaska Church Extension.

The last American frontier. There is a general feeling that to introduce the sectarian system whose evils all seek to escape in the older territory of the United States would be a great calamity. Therefore consider the following proposed procedure:

The Presbyterian Board of Home Missions, now conducting more work in Alaska than all other evangelical bodies combined, to place on record and publish its desire to cooperate in the formation and support of The Evangelical Church of Alaska whose program shall aim to serve the whole community instead of a sect or selected group and shall allow individual liberty in those doctrines and ordinances where Christian sentiment is divided. The Board to seek specific action of the General Assembly approving this stand.

The Home Missions Council to be asked to consider putting itself on record as approving such religious organization for Alaska, recommending to its constituent Boards supporting work in Alaska that they favorably consider joining in this movement, and recommending to other Boards, former members of whose denominations are known to reside in Alaska in recognizable numbers, that they provide for cooperation and financial support.

The denominational Boards accepting the recommendation of the Home Missions Council to be asked to seek from their superior ecclesiastical authorities approval of their stand for this program and make general announcement for the information of their constituency both within and without the bounds of Alaska.

Boards and their denominations supporting this program to be asked to select a representative "Board of Church Extension for Alaska" whose executive headquarters shall be located on the north Pacific Coast or in southeastern Alaska, through which contributions from supporting denominational Boards and individuals may be made and under whose administrative responsibility the work of church extension in Alaska shall be conducted.

As soon as a sufficient number of congregations in Alaska have approved and enlisted in this program a representative body to be instituted, composed of delegates chosen by the constituent churches and clothed with such powers of supervision and direction as the constituent churches may prescribe. Ecclesiastical bodies now formally established in Alaska to be asked to dismiss their churches to membership in the Evangelical Church as churches may desire and to disband their ecclesiastical organizations.

The Home Missions Council to be asked to appoint a Committee of Five or more to prosecute the measures of this proposed program and to report progress annually until its work shall be completed.

NOV 19 1917

Dr. HENRY W. GREIST  
MONTICELLO, INDIANA

November 16, 1917.

Rev. Dr. S. Hall Young,  
Alaska Desk,  
The Board of Home Missions,  
New York.

My dear Dr. Young:

I again beg your kindly indulgence after this delay of nearly a year. I have far from lost my interest in the Alaska field. Supposing all matters in connection with the proposed mission at Bristol Bay to have been rested pending the outcome of this war, I have tried to patiently wait. I note, however, that the last General Assembly Reports suggest the possibility of the medical department of such mission being established soon with a small hospital. I am therefore writing you for any consolation you may be able to give me, any possible encouragement as to an opening for me and my wife in that territory.

Under date of January 7, 1916, you wrote me quite fully of conditions at that time, causing me to hope that when the way should open I might expect at least consideration at hands of the Board. That it may refresh your memory I am returning your letter, suspecting no copy was kept in your office. Pardon notations in red ink, I having made same to call <sup>therein</sup> particular attention of my good friend, The Rev. Mr. Forde, formerly Pastor Evangelist in Wyoming, to whom I sent this letter.

I am up to my elbows in professional work here. I have a small private hospital established and am doing excellent work with the help of my wife, who as you have been told is a graduate nurse of years experience. She was assistant superintendent of the large hospital in Helena, Mont., at one time, and an army nurse in Spanish war. In hospital organization she is both at home and most efficient. Her heart is with me in my hopes and desires as to mission work in Alaska.

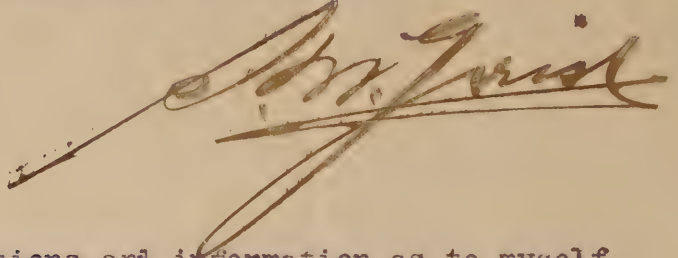
My health was never better than now. I am both rugged and tireless as to energy. I am a better man physically now than many young men at thirty. I would love to get into the Alaska harness. And the financial rewards are not considered for I am making three times as much -- yes more than that, than I could possibly make in the employ of your Board. But I want to go to Alaska for Alaska's sake and because I have for twenty and more yrs felt the call of God upon me. May I hope for some little

Rev. Dr. S. Hall Young -- 2.

encouragement in your reply? and will you kindly return  
your letter I enclose that my files may remain complete?

Thanking you heartily, I am

Yours most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "A. J. Gustafson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the left and a large loop at the end.

*Concerning*

~~As to my~~ present conditions and information as to myself  
I respectfully refer you to my local pastor, the Rev. Dr.  
M. M. Rodgers, of our First Church.

Warren, Ohio.

20 November 1917

My dear Craig,-

Your card of Nov. 15th followed me here and has just reached me. I am delighted to hear from you and from Cliff Woody.

Now I tell you what I want you to do. My home where my daughter Lassie, Mrs. Kleinschmidt, and her three children and I are keeping house is at Fair Haven, New Jersey. This is a little town on the sea shore near Red Bank on the Pennsylvania railroad and Central railroad of New Jersey. It is about an hour and twenty minutes from New York City. I go in every day to my office at 156 Fifth Ave, New York.

I am on an itinerary for the Board in Ohio and shall return home the first of next week, arriving probably Tuesday, Nov. 27th. I shall be in my office in New York Tuesday and Wednesday the 27th and 28th. Now I would like very much to have you and Cliff take your Thanksgiving dinner with us next Thursday. Come Wednesday if you can to my office and go out with me to Fair Haven remaining Wednesday and Thursday nights.

Lassie and I have been wondering what soldier boys we could have for Thanksgiving dinner and you and Cliff are just the boys we want. I am writing to Lassie.

Please answer me at my office and also write to Lassie, her address is Mrs. Alaska Young Kleinschmidt, Fair Haven, New Jersey. Now I do hope that you boys can come and make us this visit and help us demolish that turkey. I am writing to Lassie and forwarding your letter to her.

With warm regards to you both and to your parents when you write, I am

Your friend,

BY  
MLL

Warren, Ohio  
22 November 1917

My dear Dr. Greist,-

It is good to again ~~contact~~ touch with you. I have often thought of you and your zeal for the Master's service in Alaska and am glad to find you are still setting your face toward our splendid northwest.

The situation for medical work in Alaska has not as yet changed for the better, but I am in hopes that the future will bring just such an opportunity as you wish and a far greater opportunity than I had contemplated at first. Here is the situation:

Last spring as the Presbyterian Board was in such straits, they definitely decided that they could not take up that Nushagak Mission. Then we asked the Baptist Board if they would take it and they were appaled by the amount of money that it would take to set that Mission on foot. Thus an idea struck me. There is a very wealthy man in New York of the great William E. Dodge family, Cleveland Dodge, whose fortune is estimated at \$70,000,000. He was a member of the Home Missions Board and an elder in the Riverdale Presbyterian Church, but became disgruntled because a few old fogies in the New York Presbytery held up the ordination of his son, who was a Union Seminary student, on the ground that he was not orthodox. Since that time Cleveland Dodge has been giving little or nothing to anything denominational and has lost ~~as~~ lost no opportunity to declare himself against denominational names, boards, etc. But two years ago last spring I spoke in Riverdale Church of the needs of Alaska when I was raising my \$10,000 fund and Mr. Dodge became much interested. He sent me a \$500.00 check on condition that it should not pass through the hands of the Treasurer of our Board. So I sent it direct to our new work at Anchorage.

So this last spring I wrote him asking for an interview to set before him this Nushagak Mission. I told him that ~~his~~ denomination had taken that up and that I was contemplating an undenominational Mission and an independent one and hoped that he would give the twenty-five or thirty thousand dollars necessary to set that Mission on its feet in proper shape. He replied with a very kind letter saying that he was deeply interested in my work and in my suggestion, but said that he was so deeply engaged in the work of the war, Red Cross, Y.M.C.A., Armerian Fund, etc., that he felt he could not take this matter up at present. But he asked me to write him again when the stress of these war demands was over.

I had you in thought as the proper man to manage at least the medical part and perhaps take the chief place in that mission. This is one possibility. It may not materialize for a year or two but so long as Cleveland Dodge lives it is a possibility.

Now another plan. Mr. McAfee of our Board and I have working very earnestly on what we consider one of the big ideas of the present day, namely, the doing away with denominational names in Alaska and uniting the Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, Congregational, Moravians, Christian Church, Friends, Swedish Evangelists, etc., in one body, The United Evangelical Church of Alaska. We are to discuss the matter in the counsel of the executive officers of the Board next week and, if they approve, I intend to bring this elaborate plan before the notice of three men, namely, Cleveland Dodge, George W. Perkins, Cyrus McCormick, and ask them to endow this Evangelical Church with a million or a million and a half dollars on condition that the denominations acquiesce and join heartily in this scheme. If we can carry this out, we contemplate the erection of hospitals and the centralization of our Alaska work. There will be the general office at Seattle with secretary and treasurer, the consolidation of different rival churches in the different towns, and such field office, ministerial and medical, as shall be necessary in carrying on this work. It is only a dream as yet and if we make it a reality, it will take a year or two, perhaps or longer, to nationalize it. Or if it does work out successfully, I have anything to do with its management, your name will always have first consideration.

If the matter progresses during the holidays so far as to lead to the tentative promise of endowment, I shall take the matter before the United Home Missions Counsel which meets in New York in January and try to persuade the different denominations to launch the scheme. Why should not Alaska become a great object lesson for the whole world in church polity and church union?

Now I am pouring out my heart to you and you will please, at present, keep this letter confidential. Nothing whatever may come of our idea but I intend to hope and pray and work along this line as long as I live. I am more hopeful than ever also that a place will ultimately be found in Alaska for your splendid services and those of your wife.

Please keep in touch with me at my office. I am at present engaged in a series of strenuous itineraries among the Presbyteries of Ohio. A large force of us is in the field desperately trying to bring up the finances of the Board of Home Missions to the safety point.

Very cordially your friend,

SHY  
MEL

Dr. Henry W. Greist.

NOV 28 1917

DR. HENRY W. GREIST  
MONTICELLO, INDIANA

November 26, 1917.

Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.,  
156, Fifth Ave.,  
New York.

My dear Dr. Young:

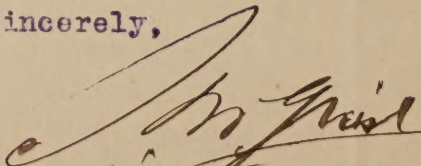
In acknowledging yours of the 22d from Warren, Ohio, I desire to thank you heartily for your kindly personal interest and for so frank statement as to the Alaskan situation, the present status and the outlook, your hopes and that for which you are so fondly working and with ardor. I have been deeply moved by your letter. I pray that your most sanguine aspirations may be realized as to Alaska.

I gladly hold your letter as personal and in confidence. I will watch for reports in the church papers as to any developments in your committee. In the mean time I thank you for remembering me, and assure you that when I am called I will gladly roll up my sleeves and am ready to give to the Master, to the church and to Alaska the best that is in me. The sacrifice will be very real and that because I have laid deeply the foundations for financial success here in Monticello, but nevertheless, I have consecrated myself to Alaska and wish to go. And it means for life if the Lord shall so will.

I will gladly keep you in touch with myself, but I am permanently located here unless Alaska shall call.

Again thanking you, and with all good wishes for yourself personally and for the work under your care, I am

Yours sincerely,



N.B.-- I have a son now 22 yrs old who is beginning the study of medicine, and he is becoming deeply interested in Alaskan medical missions. I am praying that the Lord may lead him into this work if it be His will.

H.W.G.

THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS  
OF THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
156 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

OFFICE OF SECRETARY

December 3, 1917.

Rev. S. Hall Young, D.D.  
Hotel Olmstead,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

My dear Doctor Young,

Your telegram at hand this morning, and I am rushing forward the Nenana Fund cards, pink blanks, and book advertisements, as you have requested. I discovered the Nenana cards on your desk on Saturday, and immediately sent one package of them, thinking you must have overlooked them. The supply of pink slips, I find, is almost exhausted, but I am mailing you three pads today. No one seems to know anything about these slips and probably Dr. Patterson ordered them himself, but Miss Armstrong in his office has only three left, and when so many others are using them, I do not think it right to take all she has. She will write to Dr. Patterson today about the matter and when I hear further will let you know.

Trusting all goes well with you, I am

Very sincerely yours,

*May N. Freeman*

Miss Loughlin manager of the Western Union Tel. Co. has just been here, regarding the matter of Mr. Welsh's telegram which you claimed you had never received on October 6th. She cannot find anything to show that it was actually delivered, so guess they must stand the blame, - it seems the boy came here twice after closing time that Saturday, and after the second trip the telegram seems to have been mislaid, and has only just now come to light. Was that the day that I gave written directions to have all telegrams forwarded to Fair Haven?